IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraphs of the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph **0001** on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The present Application for Patent is a Continuation and claims priority to Patent Application No. 09/982,239, entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR SELECTING A BEST SERVING SECTOR IN A CDMA DATA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM," filed October 16, 2001, now ~~allowed~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,680,925, issued January 20, 2004 to WU et al., and assigned to the assignee hereof and hereby expressly incorporated by reference herein.

Please replace paragraph **0025** on page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

Procedure 200 may operate in software at access terminal 114 and/or access point 110 for example. Procedure 200 contains steps for determining the best serving sector to achieve site selection transmit diversity for access terminal 114. When operating in a CDMA HDR system, procedure 200 is called once each HDR slot while access terminal 114 is in the connected state, i.e. communicating with access network 100. The procedure begins in step 202 and proceeds to the next step. In step 204, access terminal 114 measures the forward link signal level from each sector in the active set of pilots of access terminal 114, also referred to as the active sectors. Also, in step 204, the forward link signal level for the current serving sector is measured and compared with the signal levels from the active sectors.

Please replace paragraph **0028** on page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

In step 208, procedure 200 determines whether a new set of DRC lock bits is available, e.g., whether a new set of DRC lock bits has been received. If a new set of DRC lock bits has been received, then the procedure continues to step 210. Otherwise, the procedure continues to the end of the procedure at step 214.

Please replace paragraph **0030** on page 7 with the following amended paragraph:

In step 212, procedure 200 uses the authorized accumulated total credits from step 210 to identify the best serving sector, which will be the new serving sector. Step 212 is presented in more detail in FIG. 6.

Please replace paragraph **0068** on page 15 with the following amended paragraph:

System 850 of FIG. 8b depicts procedure 700 in a system block diagram. Sector j signal level 852 and current serving sector signal level 854 provide input to signal level estimator 856. Signal level estimates 858 and RPC bits of active sectors 862 provide input to RPC filter 860. If the mean RPC exceeds a threshold, then a deduction is applied to the variable rate signal level as per step 706 of procedure 700. Otherwise, no deduction is applied. RPC filter 860 supplies adjusted signal levels 864 to comparator 866 and new sector identifier module 874. Comparator 866 determines differences 868, DiffVV, DiffFV, DiffVF, and DiffFF as per procedure 300. Differences 868 are provided as input to accumulator 870. Accumulator 870 applies a hysteresis during accumulation as per procedure 400. Accumulator 870 provides accumulated total credits 872, DeltaCreditVV, DeltaCreditVF, DeltaCreditFV, and ~~DeltaCreditVV~~ DeltaCreditFF to new sector identification module 874. New sector identifier module 874 selects the sector with the highest soft key among a pool of candidate sectors as per operation of procedure 600. Best sector identifier 874 provides outputs best serving sector 876 and transmission mode 878. Transmission mode 878 identifies the new serving sector transmission mode as fixed rate or variable rate.